

# Torrance Herald

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## No Wards, Please

A few of the natives continue to show signs of restlessness on the matter of creating a ward system of city government for Torrance.

Efforts to obtain signatures to a petition calling for a vote on the establishment of councilmanic districts in the city are continuing under the leadership of two unsuccessful candidates for office at the last municipal election.

On May 24, the HERALD listed its objections to such a system of city government at the present time, and commented on the apparent lack of popular support for introduction of the ward system to Torrance's city government.

Those objections, supported by many prominent civic leaders and officials of the city, still stand.

Since the matter was first broached following the April municipal elections, it has been kept alive only by the efforts of a handful of disgruntled candidates who seek to gerrymander the city into more favorable voting districts.

The HERALD suspects that a desire to carve up the city in an effort to gain a seat on the City Council motivates the efforts of the leaders of the movement far more than an honest desire to improve the quality of municipal government.

The present system of choosing City Council members works well, it has worked well in the past, and we can sense no desire among responsible people of the city to change it.

We might suggest that those persons who have expressed such an interest in their city government that they would change it, could better serve the city by contributing their time and talents to making the present system work as well as it is designed to do.

The city now has a responsible City Council—one of the finest it has ever had—and there is no reason to tamper with it.

The efforts to change it should be relegated to the limbo of unwanted schemes and political chicanery. Torrance still doesn't need, nor want, political wards.

## Opinions of Others

Walter Lippmann writes: "In all of Western Europe . . . there is a conviction which does not exist equally in this country, that the balance of nuclear power as against the Soviet Union is an accomplished fact. Quite generally, the Europeans believe that the East-West political stalemate which results from the nuclear deadlock is not soon going to be broken, and that therefore while there will be no nuclear war, and no small conventional wars about Berlin and Germany, nothing constructive and large can be negotiated either."

## Morning Report:

I hope Edward M. Gilbert comes back from Brazil. He's the big New York financier who is short a cool two million bucks with the Bruce Hardwood Company. That shortage is no personal concern because I don't own a share in the company.

But Mr. Gilbert is also short with the income tax people to the tune of \$3,300,000. As a fellow taxpayer—but unfortunately at a much lower level—I want him back.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not seeking vengeance. I just want information. How do you get the income tax people to trust you for that amount?

Abe Mellinkoff

## Out of the Past

From the Pages of the HERALD

### 40 Years Ago

Following closely the development of the Torrance oil fields, announcement was made Monday of a permit granted to open a State Bank in Torrance. Confirmation of this bit of news was made when J. B. Hines and R. A. Huber closed with Dominguez Company for their former home of the Torrance National bank for the location on El Prado.

The wheels of progress are turning so swiftly in Torrance of late that some of our old institutions find themselves shoved out of the way with no roof over their heads. Included are the Chamber of Commerce, the public library, and even the City Dads. All this because of the influx of new interests that are seeking to help build Torrance into a thriving business and industrial city.

Gov. William D. Stevenson will be the featured speaker at a mass meeting next Monday evening sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. The general public is urged

to attend and help welcome the State's chief executive to the community as it is his first official visit here. A dinner will precede the meeting in Legion hall.

### 20 Years Ago

The city of Torrance with \$53,000 in bonded indebtedness, and a per capita debt of only \$5.33, ranked 220th among 284 cities analyzed by the California Taxpayers Assn., it was announced following a survey. This last year the city paid out \$2,065 in interest and \$10,000 for redemption.

Economy will be stressed in order that the city can best help the war effort, officials have said.

Boy Scouts of the nation have undertaken a big job this weekend when they will distribute a government pamphlet to every home with the title "What Every Citizen Should Know About Price Controls." Local scouts will do their part in covering all of Torrance.

Selection of the cast to present "Charley's Aunt" as a

## When Did You Notice Anything Unusual?



## ROYCE BRIER

# Slight Flap Develops In Aid to India Talks

If you are bound to sashay around the world, taking a hand in everything, the going gets a bit rugged with time. The Romans discovered this, and all they sought was to exploit foreign peoples.

We say we are helping foreign peoples from enlightened self-interest, though we haven't sold this to Comrade Khrushchev. Following is a brief on the complexities in the modern policy.

The Administration wants to allot \$817 million to India starting this week. But the Goa affair, piled on Prime Minister Nehru's neutrality, has sort of soured many congressmen.

In the appropriation bill pending, Indian aid has been cut to \$727 million. But then arose an Indian proposal to acquire MIG fighter planes from the Soviet Union.

The terms were the Russians would sell some surplus planes, then set up a production line in India for replacements and additions.

The MIGs are cheaper in dollars than comparable American planes. The Indians also note that in America they must deal with several production firms, whereas they deal with only one producer in Moscow.

But the Washington Administration didn't like the MIG deal, and thought it unwise because of the effect it might have in Congress. The Senate Foreign Rela-

tions Committee had already cut Indian aid by 25 per cent. So the Administration had to pressure for reconsideration, and the 25 per cent was grudgingly restored.

Meanwhile, there was Pakistan. We have recently sold F-104s to Pakistan in the theory they will secure the northern frontier. The Indians, however, say they could be used against India, in view of the long feuding over disputed Kashmir territory.

Pakistanis counter that the

MIGs could be used against them. They don't indeed see why India should get such American aid, saying aid to Pakistan is predicated on an alliance, whereas India is not an ally of the United States.

Nehru's leftists have been saying the United States has been "blackmailing" India to reject the MIG deal. Pandit Nehru says this is not true, and anyway, he is seriously considering the MIGs.

This little venture in global living probably isn't as intricate as it will get, before it gets any simpler.

## Mailbox

### Chest Report.

Editor, Torrance Herald: On behalf of the Community Chest and the services that receive funds through the annual United Way appeal, I wish to thank you for printing our annual stewardship report.

By printing this report in your newspaper, you are helping the Community Chest immeasurably as we report back to the contributing public on the use of the funds.

Thank you again for this generous community gesture. ALLERTON H. JEFFRIES President

### Donors Thanked

Editor, Torrance Herald: On behalf of the Harbor Area Community Chest and myself, please accept our sincere thanks for the generous coverage and space allotted to our programs and activities by your paper during and after the campaign.

Also, please express our heartfelt thanks to the donors and volunteers in this area for their wonderful help during the 1961 Chest Drive. Without this marvelous community cooperation, the 170 very worthwhile charitable organizations could not be supported.

United-Way Community Chest dollars raised in this area worked many wonders, helping indigent people in Chest-supported hospitals, child care centers, foster and adoptive homes, youth services, and family counseling.

Thanks again to all those who took an interest in the health and welfare of our community through the Chest Drive. FRED W. MILL Chairman, Harbor Area

### Recreation Needs

Editor, Torrance Herald: The editorial on "Recreation Needs" in the Torrance Herald on Sunday, June 24, is a fine tribute to the Park and Recreation Commission. As chairman of the Commission, I want to express my appreciation to you for the editorial and for the support the Torrance Herald has given to our park and recreation program. H. M. SIPPEL

## James Dorais

# Steps to Insure Safety Of Little Leaguers Told

From the first of May until the end of July, a great change takes over in households throughout the land where pre-teenage boys reside. This is baseball season for more than a million and a quarter youngsters organized into more than 6,000 Little Leagues—and of course for their proud and occasionally long-suffering parents.

In an age when physical fitness is assuming greater importance, no youth movement could be more important than Little League. And although it has some detractors, who flinch at its emphasis on competition, there are a far greater number of defenders who firmly believe it has provided a badly needed antidote to the permissiveness and de-emphasis of competitiveness that have long been rife in our public school system.

One problem that has disturbed many Little League enthusiasts, however, is the danger to players from the constant prospect of being hit in the head by "bean balls." Because of this danger, national Little League

officials require that batters and base runners wear protective headgear. In spite of this precaution, serious injuries occasionally occur, and only a month ago, a fourteen year old youngster in Las Vegas died after being struck in the head by a pitched ball in batting practice.

One Little League team that is doing something about the problem is the Tiburon Peninsula Little League in Marin County. This season, this League is experimenting with a new-type helmet developed by the electronics laboratory of the University

## A Bookman's Notebook

# Creator of Jeeves Sets Down Story of His Life

William Hogan

An informal autobiography titled "Author! Author!" is P. G. Wodehouse's 70th published book. The first was either "The Pothunters," which appeared in England in 1902, or "Picadilly Jim," of about the same vintage. The present book is a discussion of Wodehouse's major writing years, loosely 1920-60. It is made up of letters he wrote during that period to an old friend and colleague named William Townsend.

The author, now a jaunty octogenarian, has added his own present-day comments. The result is a happy, agreeable appraisal of an extraordinarily successful career by a writer who never pretended to be more than an entertainer.

We all know Wodehouse as the creator of the Hon. Bertie Wooster; the comedy butler Jeeves; Mr. Mulliner; Psmith and others. In the early 1920s this rather Edwardian Englishman moved from the dramatic critic's chair at Vanity Fair into the theater as a successful Broadway lyricist.

He teamed with Guy Bolton, who was something of a playwrighting machine of the day, and with such composers as Jerome Kern and George Gershwin. Wodehouse was a mainstay on "Leave It to Jane," "Rosalie," some of the Ziegfeld shows as well as equally famous flops. He continued this side of his career at least until "Anything Goes," the Ethel Merman show of 1935.

His comments on the Broadway and London theater of these years are vivid personal footnotes to theatrical history. They run parallel with his views on prose writing and on big magazine operations of the period when, for example, the Saturday Evening Post paid him up to \$40,000 each for the serial rights to his vastly popular and frivolous novels.

Wodehouse was never much more than an adroit hack artist, and admits as much—as he writes from Park Avenue, Mayfair, Beverly Hills, or his French estate at Le Touquet. There is an occasional reference here to his controversial war years when he was held in occupied France and later accused of broadcasting for the Nazis. But this unfortunate period seems to be deliberately underplayed.

The aging author notes with regret the passing of humor in American letters, theatrical and otherwise. In one aside, he notes: "In

these gray modern times you hardly ever see a funny story in the magazines and in the theater it is even worse . . . if the boys would stop being so frightfully powerful and significant and give us a little comedy occasionally, everything would get much brighter. I am all for incest and tortured souls in moderation, but a good laugh from time to time never hurt anybody."

"Author! Author!" By P. G. Wodehouse. Simon & Schuster, 1961. Pp. 345. \$4.50.

## Around the World With



# DELAPLANE

"All our friends (except us) seem to be going to Europe. We're running out of bon voyage ideas. Not too expensive, please!"

You never miss it until you get up at night in a strange hotel room. But a very handy thing to carry is a little penlight flashlight. Awfully handy on a dark plane at night when you don't want to turn on the overhead.

Anybody driving in Europe will be grateful on the road for those two-Thermos bottle kits with room for a picnic lunch.

Since no gas station in Europe checks tires or washes windshields, a tire gauge is good.

Write "Be My Guest, Inc.," 20 West 43rd Street, New York City, for their catalogue. You can buy people an arrival dinner in Rome, have a bottle of perfume delivered to their room in Paris or buy them a session at Elizabeth Arden.

(Haven't used this service myself. But I heard it's being run by friends of mine and I know they are knowledgeable on the overseas stuff.)

A nice present that costs you NOTHING: Air France will GIVE you "Round the World Postal Guide." Lists air mail letter and postcard rates for 80 countries served by Air France and T.A.I. Saves your friends plenty of time looking up the postal rates. Pocket size. Write Air France, Public Relations, 683 Fifth Ave., New York City, 22, New York.

"... whether it would be a good idea to stay in Madrid—(you say it's cheap)—and drive out of there or take bus tours on short trips in Europe?"

If you mean before late September, Madrid is a hot town. Spain is good on the south and east coasts. But these have been discovered by wealthy Europeans and prices are high in the season.

I think you'd do better around the Swiss-Italian lakes. Lugano and Locarno are wonderful towns. More central for traveling, too.

"Do you have any 'key' words that a person should learn for traveling say in Japan or Hong Kong? We are going on an Orient tour . . ."

You won't need any language in Hong Kong, Singapore or Manila. Plenty of English.

Japan you can use taxi-restaurant language: "Right, left and here"—"migi, hidari and koko." For bathroom you can ask for "benjo"—though I think there are politer shades of words, this works. Food you have to work off menus. Or trust the waitress.

Finding places: Give the driver the phone number of the restaurant, 10-yen coin and say "denwa"—telephone. He phones. Gets the directions and "soko," you're there.

"What do you think of going around Mexico by second-class bus?"

For the adventurous, Mexico has more than a share of bus accidents and bad ones. I ride the first-class ones, but not with much confidence. I wouldn't get on those locals with the chickens. I used to.

Stan Delaplaine finds it impossible to answer all of his travel mail.

For his intimate tips on Japan, Italy, England, France, Russia, Hawaii, Mexico, Ireland, and Spain (10 cents each), send coins and stamped, self-addressed, large envelope to the Torrance HERALD, Box RR, Torrance, Calif.

standards for crash helmets has been widespread among organized racing clubs, motorcycle officers and ski clubs.

Roderick Aya, a Snell Foundation director, a sports car racer and the father of two Little Leaguers, thinks that improved safety devices adopted for other sports should be required equipment for Little Leagues. A Tiburon resident, he is largely responsible for the Marin County Little League safety equipment.

If top officials in Little League will critically analyze

the baseball helmet picture in the light of today's medical knowledge and electronic testing techniques," Aya declares, "they will be in a position to set or adopt adequate safety standards for the manufacturers to meet. Only in this way will the requirement that batters and base runners wear approved protective headgear have any meaning. Headgear now available to and worn by the boys is, in my opinion, worse than no headgear at all—because the boys rely on it—and it is dangerously inadequate."